GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4502
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2016
Norms for Honey
Choudhary Shri Ram Tahal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether honey being sold in the country is not in compliance with the quality norms laid down by the Government and whereas the said norms are strictly followed in the case of exports to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether about six types of antibiotics laced honey is being sold through several brands in the country in the absence of compliance of such quality norms in the domestic market;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government for regulation and compliance of quality norms pertaining to honey meant for the domestic market in the country?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) to (e): Standards for Honey have been prescribed under Regulation 2.8.3 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. Tolerance limits of some antibiotics in honey have been prescribed under Regulation 2.3.2 of the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

Enforcement of the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 and Regulations thereunder is primarily the responsibility of State/UT Governments. Regular surveillance, monitoring inspection and random sampling of food products is undertaken by officials of the Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check compliance with the prescribed standards of food items, including honey. In cases, where food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006. No separate details regarding cases of non-compliance of standards of Honey being sold in the domestic market, are maintained centrally.